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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/056,394	01/24/2002	Ron Pang Cheng Chuan	3918P016	2609

8791 7590 09/12/2003

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EXAMINER

DUVERNE, JEAN F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 09/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/056,394

Applicant(s)

CHUAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jean F. Duverne

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1,6 , 9, 11, 20, 23-32, 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schwab (US patent 4,432,604).

In regard to claims 1,6 , 9, 11, 20, 29-32, and 34, Schwab's device discloses a fiber module (see figs. 1-6), comprising a pull lever actuator (18) with latching features to disengage and withdraw the fiber from a cage assembly when the connector housing with optical fibers are connected to the module(22, 28), an electro-optic transducer (see col. 2, lines 1-19) for converting optical signal into electrical signal, electrical contacts (36, 34) and an edge connection to a circuit.

In regard to claims 23-28, Schwab's device discloses the aforementioned limitations but fails to explicitly disclose the method to withdraw the optical fiber, which is an obvious variation because the limitation recited in the method claims are also recited in the apparatus claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 13-14, 18, 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwab (US patent 4,432,604).

Schwab's device discloses the aforementioned limitations but fails to explicitly disclose the material of which the pull lever actuator is made of. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to use conductive material or metal in forming the pull lever actuator, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to use conductive material or metal in forming the pull lever actuator to meet design requirement in Schwab's device.

Claims 8, 10, 15-17, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwab (US patent 4,432,604) in view of Branch et al (US 2002/0167793 A1) .

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3. Schwab's device discloses the aforementioned limitations except for the EMI shield. Branch's device discloses for the EMI shield (59). It would be have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in art at the time the invention was made to have the EMI shield such as the one discloses in Branch's device in order to enhance the shielding against electromagnetic interference in Schwab's device.

4. Claims 7, 19, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwab (US patent 4,432,604) in view of Hwang (US006416361B1).

Schwab's device discloses the aforementioned limitations, but fails to explicitly disclose the SFP module and EMI shielding. Hwang's device discloses the SFP module and the EMI shi (see abstract). It would be have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in art at the time the invention was made to have the SFP module to meet the system design and requirement in Schwab's device. It would be have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in art at the time the invention was made to have the EMI shield such as the one discloses in Hwang's device (see abstract) in order to enhance the shielding against electromagnetic interference in Schwab's device.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean F. Duverne whose telephone number is (703) 305-0297. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-8:00, Monday-Thursday.

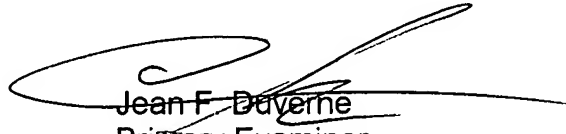
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (703) 308-2710. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

JFD

9/7/2003



Jean F. Duverne
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839